



# **The Office for Disability Issues (HRSDC): The ICF Framework & the Development of PALS**

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# Presentation Agenda

- A changing approach to disability
- The Office for Disability Issues (ODI)
- Disability survey evolution

# The Office for Disability Issues (ODI)

- Focal point within the Government of Canada for key partners promoting the full participation & inclusion of Canadians with disabilities in all aspects of society and community life.
- Seeks to provide leadership & foster excellence in disability research, policy and programming.

# The Office for Disability Issues: Mission

- **to foster coherent policies & programs in the federal jurisdiction & across all jurisdictions;**
- **to serve as a model for the federal government & provide leadership by example;**
- **to build the capacity of the voluntary sector & create cohesive networks of partners through strategic investment;**
- **to support the ongoing pursuit of knowledge to inform policy & program development; and,**
- **to reach out to Canadians to engage citizens on disability issues, increase awareness across society & come to consensus on how best to move forward on these issues.**

# HRSDC Programs Targeting Disability Issues

- **Examples of ODI's programs:**
  - Social Development Partnership Program-Disability Component (SDPP-D)
  - Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF)
  - Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities (OF)

## Example: Federal Cost-Sharing Arrangements Over the Years

- *1962 Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons*
- *1997 Employability Assistance for People with Disabilities*
- *2003 Labour Market Agreements for Persons with Disabilities*

# Disability Survey Evolution

- 1983/1984 Canadian Health & Disability Survey (CHDS)
- 1986 & 1991 Health & Activity Limitation Survey (HALS)
- 2001 & 2006 Participation & Activity Limitation Survey (PALS)

# Examples of PALS' use of ICF

## Agility

### **ICF Code**

d540 dressing

d5400 *putting on clothes*

d5401 *taking off clothes*

### **PALS Question**

B57. Do you have any difficulty dressing & undressing yourself?

# Examples of PALS' use of ICF

## Agility

### **ICF Code**

d520 caring for body parts

d5204 *caring for toenails*

### **PALS Question**

B61. Is it physically difficult for you to cut your own toenails?

# Examples of PALS' use of ICF

## Communicating

### **ICF Code**

d330 speaking

### **PALS Question**

B29. Because of a condition or health problem, do you have any difficulty speaking?

# Examples of PALS' use of ICF

## Pain

### **ICF Code**

b280 sensation of pain

### **PALS Question**

B73. Do you have any pain or discomfort that is ALWAYS present?

B74. Do you have PERIODS of pain or discomfort that REOCCUR from time to time?

## Other Examples of PALS Usage

- Employment Equity
- Working Income Tax Benefit
- Multilateral Framework for Labour Market Agreements for Persons with Disabilities.